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June 30, 2000

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Box Patent Application

Re: U.S. Non-Provisional Patent Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)
Appl. No. To be assigned; Filed: Herewith
For: **Compositions and Methods for Enhanced Sensitivity and
Specificity of Nucleic Acid Synthesis**
Inventors: Astatke *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4990001/RWE/CEJ

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S.
Patent and Trademark Office:

1. USPTO Utility Patent Application Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/05);
2. U.S. Utility Patent Application entitled:

**Compositions and Methods for Enhanced Sensitivity and Specificity of
Nucleic Acid Synthesis**

and naming as inventors:

ASTATKE, Mekbib
CHATTERJEE, Deb
GERARD, Gary

09/608066
06/30/00

Commissioner for Patents

June 30, 2000

Page 2

the application consisting of:

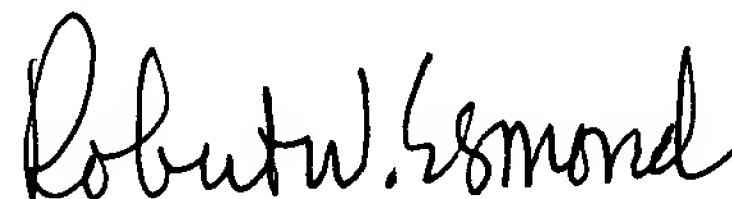
- a. A specification containing:
 - i. 56 pages of description prior to the claims;
 - ii. 10 pages of claims (59 claims);
 - iii. a one (1) page abstract;
 - b. 10 sheets of drawings: (Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6A-6B, 7, 8 and 9);
 - c. 4 pages of a paper copy of the sequence listing;
 - d. A computer readable copy of the sequence listing. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(f), the paper copy of the sequence listing and the computer readable copy of the sequence listing submitted herewith in the above application are the same;
3. Authorization to Treat a Reply As Incorporating An Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) (*in duplicate*); and
 4. Two (2) return postcards.

It is respectfully requested that, of the two attached postcards, one be stamped with the filing date of these documents and returned to our courier, and the other, prepaid postcard, be stamped with the filing date and unofficial application number and returned as soon as possible.

This patent application is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) without Declaration and without filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Robert W. Esmond
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 32,893

RWE/CEJ
Enclosures



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR § 1.53(b))	Attorney Docket No. 0942.4990001/RWE/CEJ	
	First Inventor or Application Identifier Astatke et al.	
	Title	Compositions and Methods for Enhanced Sensitivity and Specificity of Nucleic Acid Synthesis
	Express Mail Label No.	

APPLICATION ELEMENTS See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.	ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231
<div>1. <input type="checkbox"/> * Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) (Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)</div> <div>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification [Total Pages 67] (preferred arrangement set forth below)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Descriptive title of the Invention- Cross References to Related Applications- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D- Reference to Microfiche Appendix- Background of the Invention- Brief Summary of the Invention- Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)- Detailed Description- Claim(s)- Abstract of the Disclosure</div> <div>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 10]</div> <div>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Oath or Declaration [Total Pages _____]<div>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy)</div><div>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed) [Note Box 5 below]<div>i. <input type="checkbox"/> DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).</div></div></div> <div>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Incorporation By Reference (useable if Box 4b is checked) The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.</div> <div>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)</div> <div>7. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)<div>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copy</div><div>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)</div><div>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identity of above copies</div></div>	
ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS <div>8. <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))</div> <div>9. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney</div> <div>10. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable)</div> <div>11. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations</div> <div>12. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment</div> <div>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)</div> <div>14. <input type="checkbox"/> *Small Entity Statement(s) (PTO/SB/09-12) <input type="checkbox"/> Statement filed in prior application, Status still proper and desired</div> <div>15. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)</div> <div>16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) Authorization</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</div> <div><small>*NOTE FOR ITEMS 1 & 14: IN ORDER TO BE ENTITLED TO PAY SMALL ENTITY FEES, A SMALL ENTITY STATEMENT IS REQUIRED (37 C.F.R. § 1.27), EXCEPT IF ONE FILED IN A PRIOR APPLICATION IS RELIED UPON (37 C.F.R. § 1.28).</small></div>	
17. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment: <div><input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Divisional <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation-in-Part (CIP) of prior application No: ____/____</div> <div>Prior application information: Examiner _____ Group/Art Unit: _____</div>	

18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS					
<input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label <div>(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)</div> or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below					
NAME	STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C. Attorneys at Law				
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NAME (Print/Type)	Robert W. Esmond	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	32,893
SIGNATURE		Date	June 30, 2000

Burden Hour Statement: this form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of:

Astatke *et al.*

Appl. No. To be assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: **Compositions and Methods for
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Specificity of Nucleic Acid
Synthesis**

Art Unit: To be assigned

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 0942.49900001/RWE/CEJ

**Authorization To Treat A Reply As Incorporating An Extension Of Time
Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3)**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge all required extension of time fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036, if such fees are not otherwise provided for in such reply. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Robert W. Esmond
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 32,893

Date: June 30, 2000
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